

Los Angeles International Airport

Airport Address

1 World Way
Los Angeles, CA 90045

Air Cargo Contact

Los Angeles World Airports Public Relations Division
424-646-5260

Caltrans Contacts

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Located on the Pacific coastline about 15 miles southwest of downtown Los Angeles (LA), Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) accounts for as much annual air cargo tonnage as its nearest West Coast competitors combined – San Francisco, Oakland, LA/Ontario, Seattle and Portland. It is an international gateway owned and operated by Los Angeles World Airports, a proprietary department of the City of Los Angeles that receives no funding from the City's general fund.

OPERATIONS

LAX's bustling cargo facilities handle all types of domestic and international cargo. During its 24/7 operation, most of the 2,300 daily flights that depart and arrive at LAX carry at least some cargo. Every major international air carrier serving the Trans-Pacific Region serves LAX, as well as most major North American, European, Middle Eastern, and Latin American carriers.

FACILITIES AND SERVICES

- More than 2.1 million square-feet of space at LAX is devoted to air cargo on 194 acres, with an additional 4 million square-feet of off-airport cargo facilities in the immediate vicinity.
- Within its larger 200,000 square-foot facility, Mercury Air Cargo maintains and operates the largest (12,700 square-foot) airport refrigeration facility and perishable center on the U.S. West Coast.
- United Airlines has an 180,000 square-foot cargo building.
- Virgin Atlantic Airways and Asiana Airlines share a 144,000-square-foot cargo building; Qantas Airways a 47,000-square-foot facility; and Singapore Airlines a 65,000-square-foot building.
- Cargo facilities are available for multi-tenant use at both the Imperial Cargo Complex and the Century Cargo Complex.



- Several gates accommodate large Airbus A-380 aircraft at the Tom Bradley International Terminal.
- Federal Express has a major regional cargo center at LAX.
- A modern U.S. Customs headquarters at LAX serves the international trade.
- More than 300 freight forwarders and another 300 customs house brokers are located in the LA area to help expedite air cargo.
- Foreign consulates and trade offices representing over 95 nations, and more than 55 bi-national chambers of commerce and international trade professional associations are available to assist with the high volume of trade.

AIRPORT TRADE CHARACTERISTICS

- Approximately 58 percent of air cargo tonnage is international in origin or destination.
- Domestic air cargo is predominately by freighter with 74 percent market share compared to 26 percent in the "bellies" of commercial passenger aircraft. International air cargo is more even, but

Freight Planning Fact Sheet

still favors freighters at 58 percent versus 42 percent by belly.

- Hong Kong /China was LAX's largest export partner with trade valued at nearly \$11.25 billion in 2015, followed by Japan at \$4.8 billion.
- In 2015, China was by far LAX's largest import partner with nearly \$20 billion in trade, followed by India with nearly \$3.1 billion.
- In 2015, the top LAX export commodities by value were civilian aircraft, engines, and parts; unmounted diamonds; cellular and landline phones, and parts; gold; and computer chips.
- Top imports by value in 2015 were computers; cellular, landline phones, and parts; computer chips; unmounted diamonds; and returned exports for repair.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION NETWORK TRUCKING

Primary North-South Routes

- I-405, I-110, and SR 1

Primary East-West Routes

- I-105 and I-10

From this site, nearby connections with intrastate and transcontinental routes exist.

SEAPORTS AND RAIL LINE ACCESS

- Excellent surface connections are available for secondary shipment of goods including two seaports (Los Angeles and Long Beach) and railroads (Union Pacific [UP] and BNSF Railway) which provide transportation throughout the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. Moreover, the seaports support a level of international trade services that also serve the air cargo industry.

PLANNED PROJECTS

- According to the draft 2015 Caltrans California Aviation System Plan Capital Improvement Plan, runway, taxiway, and electrification projects are planned for LAX over the next few years.
- Extension of the rail Green Line to LAX is under way providing mass transit for airport customers by METRO.

OTHER AIRPORT FACTS

- At year-end 2015, LAX ranked 5th in the United States and 12th in the world, with more than 2.1 million metric tons in air cargo processed, valued at over \$101.4 billion in 2015.

- Nearly 30 dedicated-cargo airlines operate at LAX.
- LAX is served by all the major third-party cargo handlers, including Consolidated Aviation Services (CAS), Worldwide Flight Services (WFS), Swissport, and Mercury.

CONSTRAINTS AND ISSUES

- As one of 10 airports statewide determined to have noise impacts, noise abatement procedures exist at LAX for mitigation purposes.
- The Los Angeles and Ventura County areas have five of the 10 worst truck bottlenecks in the U.S.
- Southern California's aging transportation infrastructure is at capacity with limited funding for expansion and repairs.

CALTRANS FOCUS AREAS

- Improve cargo access to and from LAX.
- Implement ways to alleviate highway bottlenecks and improve pavement conditions along truck routes.
- Plan for handling sea level rise to ensure freight accessibility.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING PARTNERS

South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD), <http://www.aqmd.gov/>

Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG): <http://www.scag.ca.gov/rtp2008/index.htm>

RESOURCES

Air Cargo Mode Choice and Demand Study (2010), prepared for Caltrans by TranSystems: http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/offices/ogm/key_reports_files/Air_Cargo_Mode_Choice_&Demand_Study_080210.pdf

Air Cargo World: <http://www.aircargoworld.com>

California Freight Mobility Plan (2014), Caltrans: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/tpp/offices/ogm/cfmp.html>

Los Angeles International Airport website: <http://www.lawa.org/welcomeLAX.aspx>

Multi-County Goods Movement Action Plan (2008), Metro: <http://www.metro.net/projects/mcgmap>

Southern California Regional Freight Study, Federal Highway Administration: http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/freight/freight_analysis/reg_ind_studies/so_cal_study.htm